

# Frye Lights

*A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Donna Frye*



July 2004

Volume II, Issue 4



**Proudly Serving  
the District Six  
Communities of:**

*Bay Ho*

*Bay Park*

*Birdland*

*Clairemont*

*De Anza*

*Kearny Mesa*

*Linda Vista*

*Mission Valley*

*Mission Village*

*Morena*

*Serra Mesa*

*Stonecrest*

## *A Message From the Desk of Councilmember Donna Frye*

This November when you go to your local polling place to cast your vote on a number of important issues you will see a ballot item closely related to a state wide companion item titled State Constitutional Amendment-1 (SCA-1). This ballot item is intended to make our government more open and transparent to the public. SCA-1 is legislation that proposes a Constitutional Amendment to allow voters to strengthen the public's right of access to government deliberations and records.

SCA-1 and its local companion item allow the public to define how open their government should be, to know what their government is doing, to have access to information held in government records, and the ability to attend and express their views at meetings of government bodies. These ballot measures define government business as the people's business and strengthen the people's right to know about their government.

*Continued on page 2*

## *Frye Celebrates San Diego River Day*

On May 22, 2004, San Diegans celebrated the San Diego River at the first ever San Diego River Day. Councilmember Frye kicked off the festivities in Mission Valley at "RiverFest," one of many events held from Lake Cuyamaca to Dog Beach honoring the natural beauty of the San Diego River. A variety of events took place in District Six with free trolley rides from Qualcomm Stadium to the petting zoo and farmers market off of Fenton Parkway and all the way to the Old Town trolley stop.

*Continued on page 2*



Councilmember Frye, Mayor Murphy and the City Council proclaimed June 1, 2004 San Diego River Day

### *Inside This Issue*

<i>San Diego River Day</i>	1
<i>Funds Go to Boys and Girls Clubs</i>	3
<i>Waterkeeper Alliance</i>	3
<i>Right to Know Committee</i>	4
<i>Rebuilding Together San Diego</i>	5
<i>Stan Miller Day</i>	5
<i>Mission Bay Landfill Study</i>	6



## *San Diego River Day Continued*

Many San Diegans enjoyed the Kumeyaay Indian Tribe cultural exhibit along with music, food, and wine tasting at the Rio Vista - Promenade while others captured the beauty of the San Diego River with walking tours near Mission Valley Center. Other festivities such as dance, karaoke, and prize give a ways took place at Hazard Center.



Frye kicked off San Diego River Day at Mission Valley's River Fest

Councilmember Frye celebrated "RiverFest" along with Assemblymember Christine Kehoe and the San Diego River Foundation at the Mission Valley Library. A presentation ceremony was held unveiling a new exhibit, which features photographs of historic Mission Valley dating back to 1906.

The inaugural San Diego River Day was a great success, filled with festivities for the whole family and opportunities to learn about one of our City's greatest natural resources.

## *A Message From the Desk of Councilmember Donna Frye Continued*

Both ballot measures would clearly establish the right for citizens to examine what their government is doing and allow for their voices to be heard throughout the process of exploring any issue before a publicly elected body; however, personal and confidential matters of public employees are exempt from this law to allow for privacy.

This measure would also require government entities to state a clear and understandable reason why secrecy is necessary under the SCA-1 allowed exceptions. Current law has been interpreted to allow a government agency to simply state what exemption it is claiming without any explanation. Also, under this measure the government could not abuse any right to secrecy by having it cover more ground or last longer than was necessary.

Although there are existing laws that were enacted to provide these rights, these laws have not stopped the unnecessary and unneeded secrecy that the public often encounters in government. SCA-1 if approved by the voters, will strengthen the public's right to access to government meetings and records. This would make all state and local laws and administrative regulations conform with the provisions of the amendments. Also, these two ballot items require government agencies to publicly explain and justify any exception to open government that the agency intends to claim.

SCA-1 passed both the California State Senate and Assembly unanimously. SCA-1's local companion item passed the San Diego City Council by a unanimous vote. Along with changes to our City rules governing the noticing and conduct of closed session meetings, this companion item was one of the main reforms that I was seeking when I decided that our City needed to reform how it conducts closed session meetings and allows information to flow as freely as possible to the public. I was successful in enacting a temporary rule to make the needed changes to our closed session policy.

The Right To Know Committee has unanimously approved the temporary rule and the City Council will vote on making these changes permanent later this year. With the inclusion of SCA-1 and its companion item on the November ballot San Diegans have an invaluable opportunity to open up state and local government to the public. I believe that these measures will only make our current system of government stronger and more effective. Allowing the public to have a greater voice when public officials are discussing and voting on an item will inevitably lead to better and more responsible decisions by our elected leaders.

Sincerely,





## *Frye Presents Check to Boys and Girls Clubs*

On Friday, June 18, 2004, Councilmember Frye handed over a check for \$95,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Greater San Diego for much needed improvements to the Clairemont and Linda Vista Branches. Frye has had a long history of making the children of the Boys & Girls Clubs a priority in District Six, having allocated a grand total of \$420,000 of Federal Block Grant funds over the past three years.

The Linda Vista Branch first opened in 1955 and is the second oldest Boys & Girls Clubs in San Diego. Not much later, in 1961 the Clairemont Branch opened up its doors and began providing services to the families of Clairemont and beyond. These two older facilities began to need major repairs over the past couple of years. One of Councilmember Frye's first actions when she came into office was to allocate \$80,000 to the Clairemont Branch so that they could make repairs to the pool area and to the exterior of the building.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego has a long and distinguished history of service to disadvantaged youth dating back to the early 1940's. In 2001, two of the largest Boys & Girls Club Organizations in San Diego (the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Diego and Boys & Girls Clubs United) merged to form the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego.



## *International Waterkeeper Alliance*

San Diego's beaches and bays provided the site and inspiration for the annual conference of the International Waterkeeper Alliance.



Frye presented a Proclamation to Bruce Reznik, Robert Kennedy, Jr., and Steve Fleischli

The conference brought together over 160 clean water activists from around the world to strategize on combating pollution of the earth's waterways. Mercury contamination of lakes, streams and coastal waters was identified by the Alliance as the number one enemy of public health.

Waterkeeper President Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. said, "I live in a state (New York) where it is unsafe for me and my family to eat most species of fish. Mercury contamination of the world's waterways has resulted in almost all U.S. states and most Canadian provinces issuing fish consumption advisories covering 30% of U.S. lakes and 453 thousand miles of America's rivers. Kennedy continued, "The Center for Disease Control estimates that 12% of U.S. women of childbearing age and up to 630,000 children born each year suffer from unsafe levels of mercury in their bodies."

San Diego Baykeeper, a member of the Alliance, was honored at the conference by Councilmember Donna Frye and U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer for their extraordinary accomplishments in fighting sewage pollution in San Diego's beaches and bays. Those accomplishments include compelling the City of San Diego to dramatically increase funding by more than \$240 million for the inspection, maintenance and replacement/rehabilitation of aging sewer lines to end the sewage spills that foul our local waters. As a result, sewage spills declined by 58% from 2000 to 2003, and beach closures also decreased by nearly 50% over the same period.

Councilmember Frye said, "San Diego Baykeeper and the Waterkeeper Alliance are instrumental



in protecting and preserving our bays and beaches in San Diego and the world. I was privileged to help host these amazing advocates in their quest to achieve clean water for generations to come."



Robert Kennedy, Jr. pointed to the proclamation as Councilmember Frye read it out loud.

The premier issue of **Waterkeeper** magazine was also unveiled at the conference. The new quarterly magazine is aimed at stimulating the development of local clean water citizen activists throughout the world. The Fall issue of **Waterkeeper** will have a circulation of 100,000 and be available for purchase at Barnes and Noble and Borders bookstores. "Our goal is to reach a circulation of 1 million," said Publisher Jordan Wright.

The Waterkeeper Alliance is the nation's fastest growing environmental movement with 120 member organizations throughout North and South America, Europe and Australia. The Alliance provides clean water activists a centralized source of scientific, legal, media and capacity-building resources. It was founded in 1999 by environmental attorney and activist Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and several other veteran clean water activists who came together in 1966 to save New York's Hudson River.

### *Frye's Right to Know Committee Approves Reforms to Council Conduct Rules*

On Wednesday, June 23, 2004, Councilmember Donna Frye along with Deputy Mayor Toni Atkins and Councilmember Jim Madaffer unanimously approved a temporary rule that will reform current City regulations on the noticing and conduct of closed session meetings held by the City Council. In addition to approving the temporary rule, the committee also recommended that new language be included in the San Diego Municipal Code that will, if adopted by the full Council, strengthen current procedures and regulations pertaining to serial meetings by elected City officials. The committee also recommended changes to the current rules

governing non-agenda public comment that will allow public speakers a better forum to address their elected officials. The committee had previously approved recommended changes to the City Clerk's website to allow for easier access to public information.

The Right To Know Committee was formed by the San Diego City Council to review a temporary rule put forward by Councilmember Frye and Deputy Mayor Atkins and passed by the Council on March 29, 2004 and forward its recommendation on to the City Council Rules, Finance and Intergovernmental Relations committee and ultimately the full City Council for adoption as a permanent rule. The purpose of this rule is to increase government transparency in the City of San Diego. These new rules for conduct by the City Council include:



Frye Chairs the Right to Know Committee of the City Council

- Giving the public more information about items coming before the Council in closed session
- Reporting the results of actions taken in closed session
- Giving the public an opportunity to directly address the City Council on any closed session item on the agenda
- Giving the Council an opportunity to discuss the basis for convening into closed session, ask questions and respond to questions from the public
- A transcription of all closed session meetings
- Making available to the Council and the public a weekly litigation log listing all litigation filed against or by the City

These changes to the open meeting rules of the City Council will help to reduce the many concerns about the noticing and conduct of the closed session meetings. The Right To Know Committee will continue to meet as needed to discuss issues that will help open City government to all members of the public.





## *Frye Thanks Volunteers for Refurbishing Clairemont Friendship Senior Center*

On March 22, Councilmember Frye joined Rebuilding Together San Diego, formerly known as Christmas in April, to refurbish the Clairemont Friendship



Councilmember Frye thanked Rebuilding Together San Diego, volunteers and sponsors who helped to refurbish the Clairemont Friendship Senior Center

Senior Center. Many San Diego residents donated their Saturday morning to help paint and make repairs to the Senior Center.

This facility houses numerous programs integral to the lives of seniors City-wide. The programs include the Senior Nutrition Program, in which meals are served at the center or delivered to homebound seniors, the Adult Social Daycare program and the Senior Emergency Alert System.

Councilmember Frye allocated \$10,000 of Community Development Block Grant funds to help make this possible and to ensure that these quality community programs continue to serve our seniors. Also helping to sponsor this event was the La Jolla Sunrise Rotary Club.



Councilmember Frye at the Rebuilding Together San Diego event in Clairemont

Additional special thanks go out to volunteers from the Tierrasanta and Clairemont Hills Kiwanis Clubs.

## *Frye Proclaims Stan Miller Day in San Diego*

Councilmember Frye proclaimed June 7, 2004 to be Stan Miller Day in the City of San Diego. Stan first worked at KFMB TV and most re-



Councilmember Frye and former KUSI anchor Stan Miller

cently completed nine years on "The KUSI Morning News", in which he was able to deliver the news with honor and wit. Stan has received several awards over the years including an Emmy Award for stories on hiring the disabled and getting out the vote, the "Environmental Journalism Award" from the Sierra Club and the "Dream-Maker Award" for outstanding service to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Stan serves as an Elder at Horizon Christian Fellowship North County and speaks to youth groups and churches regularly. Stan has been surfing for the past 20 years and has been a strong advocate for clean water issues as well. He was the first surfer to participate in the Ocean Illness Survey with Surfers Tired of Pollution organized by Councilmember Frye. When Stan isn't spending time in the water, he enjoys spending time riding his Harley, fishing, playing golf and just hanging out with his family.



Councilmember Frye, Stan Miller and his family showing off the proclamation declaring "Stan Miller Day" in San Diego



### ***Frye and Environmental Services Kick Off Mission Bay Landfill***

On Friday, May 21, 2004, City of San Diego Councilmember Donna Frye hosted a press conference in the South Shores Parking Lot, along SeaWorld Drive, to launch the beginning of an environmental assessment of the closed 115-acre Mission Bay landfill located in the vicinity of Sea World Drive.



Councilmember Frye and TAC member Dr. Gordon at the podium

Through the collaborative work of the City of San Diego Environmental Services Department and the Mission Bay Landfill Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the City hired a consultant, SCS Engineers, through a consultant selection process.

SCS Engineers will perform a thorough environmental assessment that will more clearly define the extent of the landfill's historical boundaries, analyze the levels of potential environmental contaminants beneath the surface of the old landfill, and evaluate the effects that any contaminants might have on the health and safety of the area.

During its operation from 1952 to 1959, the Mission Bay landfill operated as a municipal landfill and accepted both municipal and industrial wastes. From 1959 to 1969, the property received hydraulic fill from the dredging of Mission Bay, with additional hydraulic fill in 1980. The landfill also accepted municipal solid waste and liquid waste from industrial sources, which was legal and common practice at the time. Today, under current federal regulations, some of these industrial wastes are classified as hazardous.

Nearly 20 years ago, preliminary studies of the landfill conducted by federal and state officials concluded that the landfill did not pose a threat to public health or to the nearby Mission Bay environment. Since then, new scientific methods have been developed which provide more accurate data and will be used in the upcoming environmental assessment of the closed landfill.

The assessment will include several phases such as walking the site while performing geophysical surveys, and using a truck mounted hydraulic ram to obtain soil, gas, and water samples for laboratory analysis. The final site assessment report will provide the needed information to evaluate the current conditions and what future remediation alternatives, if any, are most appropriate for the site.

The Mission Bay landfill TAC was created in August 2002 to oversee the investigation of the closed Mission Bay landfill. The TAC is chaired by Councilmember Donna Frye, and consists of community members, regulatory agency staff and City employees. The consultant, SCS Engineers, is a nationally recognized expert in the solid waste industry. SCS has performed an extensive amount of historical research on the Mission Bay landfill site in order to prepare the Site Assessment Plan. A copy of the Site Assessment Plan is available for public review at the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department Library located at 9601 Ridgehaven Court.

### ***Frye Presents Recycling Revenue Check To District Six Recreation Councils***

On May 19, 2004, Councilmember Frye presented District Six Recreation Councils with a check for \$5,827. These revenues come from recycling stations located at Community Park and Recreation



Frye presents recycling refund check to District Six Recreation Councils

Centers and are used to help with general improvements and the purchasing of sports equipment. This program has been in existence since 1992, and allows constituents the ability to support their community centers by recycling. This year we would like to congratulate the North Clairemont Recreation Council for raising the highest revenues in District Six with a total of \$1,303. This has been a difficult year financially for the City of San Diego, and in these tight budget times, programs like these, make all the difference when it comes to protecting quality of life in San Diego.





## Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858 495-7856
Animal Regulation	236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	338-2073
Birth and Death Records	237-0502
Brush Abatement	533-4444
Building Permits	446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858 292-6484
City Council Docket Info	533-4000
City Directory	236-5555
Community Service Center	858 581-4111
Code Violations	236-5500
Curb Maintenance	527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858 694-7000
Dog Licenses	767-2675
Fire Stations	533-4300
Graffiti	525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	858 694-7000
Housing Commission	231-9400
Humane Society	299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858 573-1390
Claremont	858 581-9935
Linda Vista	858 573-1399
Mission Valley	858 573-5007
North Claremont	858 581-9931
Serra Mesa	858 573-1396
Litter Control	858 492-5010
Noise Regulation	236-5500
Office of Small Business	685-1390
Park and Recreation	525-8219
Parking Citations	236-7145
Police: Non-Emergency	531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	527-7500
Rec Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858 573-1387
Linda Vista	858 573-1392
North Claremont	858 581-9926
Serra Mesa	858 573-1408
South Claremont	858 581-9924
Tecolote	858 581-9930
Recycling Hotline	858 694-7000
Senior Citizens Services	236-6905
Sewer Repair/Spills	515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	527-7500
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	235-1000
Street Lights	527-7500
Street Sweeping	527-7500
Traffic Control	533-3126
Tree Maintenance	527-7500
Water Emergency	515-3525
Water Utilities	515-3500
Zoning Regulation Info	236-5555

## District Six Community Meetings

Claremont Town Council  
Place: Claremont High School Cafeteria,  
4150 Ute Drive  
When: 1st Thursday/ Month  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Claremont Mesa Planning Committee  
Place: Claremont Friendship Senior Center,  
4425 Bannock Ave.  
When: 3rd Tuesday/ Month  
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group  
Place: National University,  
9388 Light Wave # 114  
When: 3rd Wednesday/ Month  
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Civic Association  
Place: Linda Vista Recreation Center,  
7064 Levant Street  
When: 3rd Thursday/ Month  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Planning Group  
Place: Linda Vista Library,  
2160 Ulric Street  
When: 4th Monday/ Month  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee  
Place: Rotating Venue  
When: 1st Tuesday/Month  
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council  
Place: Mission Valley Library,  
2123 Fenton Parkway  
When: 3rd Thursday/ Odd Months  
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee  
Place: Mission Valley Library,  
2123 Fenton Parkway  
When: 1st Wednesday/ Month  
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Community Council  
Place: ARC, 9575 Aero Drive  
When: 4th Wednesday/ Month  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group  
Place: Taft Junior High School,  
9191 Gramercy Dr.  
When: 3rd Thursday/ Month  
Time: 7:00 p.m.



Councilmember Donna Frye  
City Administration Building  
202 C Street, MS 10A  
San Diego, CA 92101

### *Frye Lights: A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Donna Frye*



#### *The District Six Staff:*

*Michael Simonsen  
Chief of Staff*

*Nicole Capretz  
Senior Policy Advisor*

*Lisa Gonzalez, Senior Policy Analyst  
Mission Valley, Kearny Mesa*

*Meredith McFadden, Council Representative  
Serra Mesa, De Anza*

*Kevin Smith, Council Representative  
Linda Vista*

*Keith Corry, Council Representative  
Clairemont*

*Mary Ann Kempczenski  
Council Representative*

*Lee Chiles Mayes  
Scheduler/ Office Manager*



#### *Contact Councilmember Donna Frye*

Phone: (619) 236-6616

Facsimile: (619) 236-7329

Address:

202 "C" Street, M.S. 10A

San Diego, CA 92101

E-Mail: [DonnaFrye@sandiego.gov](mailto:DonnaFrye@sandiego.gov)

Web Site: [www.sandiego.gov/cd6](http://www.sandiego.gov/cd6)